

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (currently amended) A hand grip (1) of a screwdriver for bits (2), the hand grip (1) comprising:

a grip member having a first end (1a) and a second end (1b) opposite the first end (1a);

the first end (1a) having a tool holder (3) configured to engage the bits (2);

the second end (1b) having a stationary core (4) with a round magazine (5) comprising bit compartments (5a-5c) configured to store the bits (2), wherein the bit compartments (5a-5c) extend in a direction of the longitudinal axis (33) of the second end (1b) of the grip member and are positioned adjacent to one another;

the second end (1b) having a closure device (6) configured to rotate relative to the stationary round magazine (5);

the closure device (6) comprising a sleeve (8) configured to provide an ergonomic outer shape of the second end (1b) of the grip member, wherein the sleeve (8) has an upper end (9) remote from the tool holder (3) and a lower end (10) proximal to the tool holder (3);

wherein the sleeve (8) is rotatably supported on the stationary core (4) and has an access opening (7) extending in the direction of the longitudinal axis (33);

wherein the access opening (7) passes externally across the bit compartments (5a-5c) when the sleeve (8) is rotated relative to the stationary core (4);

wherein the access opening (7) is configured to be aligned with one of the bit compartments (5a-5c), respectively, for removal or insertion of the bit (2);

wherein the sleeve (8) has a length in the direction of the longitudinal axis (33) such that the upper end (9) and the lower end (10) form a closed continuous, uninterrupted ring, respectively.

2. (currently amended) The A hand grip according to claim 1, of a screwdriver for bits (2), the hand grip (1) comprising:

a grip member having a first end (1a) and a second end (1b) opposite the first end (1a);

the first end (1a) having a tool holder (3) configured to engage the bits (2);

- 2 -

7/8/04: Amd for Ser. No. 09/990,873 - Inventor(s): A. Casel - Filing Date: 11/16/2001

the second end (1b) having a stationary core (4) with a round magazine (5) comprising bit compartments (5a-5c) configured to store the bits (2), wherein the bit compartments (5a-5c) extend in a direction of the longitudinal axis (33) of the second end (1b) of the grip member and are positioned adjacent to one another;

the second end (1b) having a closure device (6) configured to rotate relative to the stationary round magazine (5);

the closure device (6) comprising a sleeve (8) configured to provide an ergonomic outer shape of the second end (1b) of the grip member, wherein the sleeve (8) has an upper end (9) remote from the tool holder (3) and a lower end (10) proximal to the tool holder (3);

wherein the sleeve (8) is rotatably supported on the stationary core (4) and has an access opening (7) extending in the direction of the longitudinal axis (33);

wherein the access opening (7) passes externally across the bit compartments (5a-5c) when the sleeve (8) is rotated relative to the stationary core (4);

wherein the access opening (7) is configured to be aligned with one of the bit compartments (5a-5c), respectively, for removal or insertion of the bit (2);

wherein the sleeve (8) has a length in the direction of the longitudinal axis (33) such that the upper end (9) and the lower end (10) form a continuous, uninterrupted ring, respectively;

wherein the access opening (7) has a length (15) matching at least a length (14) of the bits (2).

3. (original) The hand grip according to claim 1, wherein the upper end (9) and the lower end (10) have an outer contour (16) configured to be flush with an outer contour (17, 18) of adjoining parts of the grip member.

4. (original) The hand grip according to claim 1, wherein the sleeve (8) has an inner contour (19) and the round magazine (5) has an outer contour (20), wherein the inner contour (19) is rotationally supported at least partially on the outer contour (20) of the round magazine (5).

5. (currently amended) The A hand grip according to claim 1, of a screwdriver for bits (2), the hand grip (1) comprising:

- 3 -

7/8/04: Amd for Ser. No. 09/990,873 - Inventor(s): A. Casel - Filing Date: 11/16/2001

a grip member having a first end (1a) and a second end (1b) opposite the first end (1a);

the first end (1a) having a tool holder (3) configured to engage the bits (2);

the second end (1b) having a stationary core (4) with a round magazine (5) comprising bit compartments (5a-5c) configured to store the bits (2), wherein the bit compartments (5a-5c) extend in a direction of the longitudinal axis (33) of the second end (1b) of the grip member and are positioned adjacent to one another;

the second end (1b) having a closure device (6) configured to rotate relative to the stationary round magazine (5);

the closure device (6) comprising a sleeve (8) configured to provide an ergonomic outer shape of the second end (1b) of the grip member, wherein the sleeve (8) has an upper end (9) remote from the tool holder (3) and a lower end (10) proximal to the tool holder (3);

wherein the sleeve (8) is rotatably supported on the stationary core (4) and has an access opening (7) extending in the direction of the longitudinal axis (33);

wherein the access opening (7) passes externally across the bit compartments (5a-5c) when the sleeve (8) is rotated relative to the stationary core (4);

wherein the access opening (7) is configured to be aligned with one of the bit compartments (5a-5c), respectively, for removal or insertion of the bit (2);

wherein the sleeve (8) has a length in the direction of the longitudinal axis (33) such that the upper end (9) and the lower end (10) form a continuous, uninterrupted ring, respectively;

wherein the second end (1b) comprises an end member (22) configured to secure the sleeve (8) on the core (4), wherein the core (4) has a core end remote from the tool holder (3) and the end member (22) is anchored on the core end, wherein the upper end (9) of the sleeve (8) is located at a distance from the end face (21) of the second end (1b).

6. (original) The hand grip according to claim 5, wherein the core (4) has a pressure-resistant stop (23) and wherein the end member (22) rests against the pressure-resistant stop (23) configured to receive pressure forces exerted by the ball of the

thumb of a user.

7. (original) The hand grip according to claim 5, wherein the end member (22) is secured on the core (4) so as not to rotate relative to the core (4).

8. (original) The hand grip according to claim 7, wherein the end member (22) and the core (4) are secured on one another by a snap-on connector (25).

9. (original) The hand grip according to claim 1, wherein the sleeve (8) comprises a position lock (26) configured to secure the sleeve (8) in an access position in which the access opening (7) is aligned with one of the bit compartments (5a-5c), respectively.

10. (original) The hand grip according to claim 1, wherein the sleeve (8) is comprised of transparent plastic material.

11. (original) The hand grip according to claim 1, wherein the grip member comprises a pivot joint (1c) located below the lower end (10) of the sleeve (8), wherein the pivot joint (1c) has a pivot axis (30) extending transversely to the longitudinal axis (33).

12. (currently amended) ~~The A hand grip according to claim 11, of a screwdriver for bits (2), the hand grip (1) comprising:~~

a grip member having a first end (1a) and a second end (1b) opposite the first end (1a);

the first end (1a) having a tool holder (3) configured to engage the bits (2);

the second end (1b) having a stationary core (4) with a round magazine (5) comprising bit compartments (5a-5c) configured to store the bits (2), wherein the bit compartments (5a-5c) extend in a direction of the longitudinal axis (33) of the second end (1b) of the grip member and are positioned adjacent to one another;

the second end (1b) having a closure device (6) configured to rotate relative to the stationary round magazine (5);

the closure device (6) comprising a sleeve (8) configured to provide an ergonomic outer shape of the second end (1b) of the grip member, wherein the sleeve (8) has an upper end (9) remote from the tool holder (3) and a lower end (10) proximal to the tool holder (3);

wherein the sleeve (8) is rotatably supported on the stationary core (4) and

has an access opening (7) extending in the direction of the longitudinal axis (33);

wherein the access opening (7) passes externally across the bit compartments (5a-5c) when the sleeve (8) is rotated relative to the stationary core (4);

wherein the access opening (7) is configured to be aligned with one of the bit compartments (5a-5c), respectively, for removal or insertion of the bit (2);

wherein the sleeve (8) has a length in the direction of the longitudinal axis (33) such that the upper end (9) and the lower end (10) form a continuous, uninterrupted ring, respectively;

wherein the grip member comprises a pivot joint (1c) located below the lower end (10) of the sleeve (8), wherein the pivot joint (1c) has a pivot axis (30) extending transversely to the longitudinal axis (33);

wherein the pivot joint (1c) divides the grip member into the first and second ends (1a, 1b), wherein the second end (1b) has extensions (31) projecting past the pivot joint (1c) toward the tool holder (3), wherein the extensions (31) are spaced apart in a direction of the pivot axis (30) and are located on opposite sides of the first end (1a) in an extended position of the grip member and form therebetween a receiving space for the thumb of a user in a pivoted position of the grip member.

13. (original) The hand grip according to claim 1, wherein the first end (1a) comprises a ratchet mechanism (13) and wherein the tool holder (3) is received in the ratchet mechanism (13).